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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

BASOM, BLAINE T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2173

DATE MAILED: 11/30/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/070,852	STOCKHUSEN, DIRK	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Blaine Basom	2173	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 September 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 17-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 17-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 March 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

The Examiner acknowledges the Applicant's cancellation of claims 9-16, and the addition of new claims 17-27. Regarding the new claims, the Applicant submits that Gutowitz (U.S. Patent No. 6,219,731) and Salm (U.S. Patent No. 5,991,396 to Salm et al.), presented in the previous Office Action, fail to teach a preselection window that simultaneously displays a plurality of characters, as recited in the claimed invention. In response, the Examiner notes that the U.S. Patent of Kraft (U.S. Patent No. 6,487,424 to Kraft et al.), which was cited in the previous Office Action, teaches such a preselection, as is shown further below. The Applicant's arguments have thus been considered, but are moot in view of the following new grounds of rejection, which are required in response to the Applicants addition of new claims 17-27.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 17-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,487,424, which is attributed to Kraft et al. (and hereafter referred to as "Kraft"). In general, Kraft presents a method for inputting alphanumeric characters into a portable communication

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terminal, such as a cell phone, in which a plurality of candidate characters are simultaneously listed on the display screen of the terminal, and may be selected for input into a user-entered character string (for example, see column 1, lines 7-51; and the list of candidate characters, reference number 22, in figure 3). Such a list of candidate characters, being separated and demarcated from the rest of the displayed content (for example, see the list of candidate characters, reference number 22, in figure 3), is considered a “preselection window” like that of the claimed invention.

Specifically regarding claim 1, Kraft discloses that the user may navigate through the list of candidate characters via depressible roller wheel (for example, see column 1, lines 52-59), or alternatively, via a navigation key having “step-up/step-down” functionality (for example, see column 2, lines 50-62). Accordingly, each candidate character’s position in the list is indicative of a number of keystrokes for the character, or more specifically, the number of keystrokes required to navigate to the character in the list. Upon navigation to a particular character, the user may select the character for entrance into a user-entered character string by depressing the roller wheel (for example, see column 1, lines 30-59), or if a navigation key having step-up/step-down functionality provides the navigation means, the user may select the character with a second key, e.g. a soft key (for example, see column 2, lines 50-62). In response to being selected, the character is displayed within the user-entered character string, which is within an inputted region of the display (for example, see figure 3, in addition to column 6, line 66 – column 7, line 8). After each character is selected, the order of characters within the navigation window may be altered, by having characters with a higher probability of being entered listed first, in order to provide a higher text entry rate (for example, see column 2, lines 1-11; and

column 9, line 33 – column 10, line 24). Kraft thus teaches: associating at least one key with a plurality of characters, or more specifically, associating a navigation key (i.e. a roller wheel or a key with step-up/step-down functionality) and a selection key with a plurality of characters; simultaneously displaying the plurality of characters in a preselection window of a display in a first manner, i.e. in a first order, indicative of a number of keystrokes for each of the plurality of characters, the number of keystrokes for each of the plurality of characters being based on a first previously entered character; simultaneously displaying the plurality of characters in the preselection window in a second manner, i.e. a second order, indicative of a different number of keystrokes for each of the plurality of characters, the different number of keystrokes being for each of the plurality of characters being based on a second previously entered character; receiving a character selection, by navigating to the character with a navigation key and selecting the character with a selection key; and displaying the selected character in an inputted region of the display. Accordingly, Kraft is considered to teach a method like that of claim 1, which is for inputting alphanumeric characters.

Concerning claim 18, Kraft discloses that, after a character is selected, the order of characters within the navigation window may be altered by having characters with a higher probability of being entered listed first, in order to provide a higher text entry rate (for example, see column 2, lines 1-11; and column 9, line 33 – column 10, line 24). The user may navigate through the list of candidate characters via depressible roller wheel (for example, see column 1, lines 52-59), or alternatively, via a navigation key having “step-up/step-down” functionality (for example, see column 2, lines 50-62). Each candidate character’s position in the list is thus indicative of a number of keystrokes for the character, or more specifically, the number of

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keystrokes required to navigate to the character in the list. Accordingly, Kraft teaches simultaneously displaying a plurality of characters in a preselection window in a first manner indicative of a number of keystrokes for each of the characters, or more specifically, in an order based indicative of a number of keystrokes for each of the characters, as is expressed in claim 18.

As per claims 19-20, Kraft discloses that within the selection list, a cursor denotes the user's designated position (for example, see column 1, lines 30-59). The user moves the cursor via the above-described navigation means to a desired character, and inputs the character via the above-described selection means (for example, see column 1, lines 30-59). The cursor is thus indicative of the number of keystrokes for each character; the further away the cursor is from a character, the more keystrokes required to navigate to the character. Accordingly, Kraft teaches simultaneously displaying a plurality of characters in a preselection window in a first manner indicative of a number of keystrokes for each of the characters, whereby the first manner involves a marker, e.g. a cursor, associated with at least one of the plurality of characters, as is expressed in claims 19-20.

Concerning claim 20, Kraft discloses that the plurality of characters in the candidate list, i.e. preselection window, may comprise at least one digit and at least one letter (for example, see column 7, lines 15-50).

As per claims 21-22, Kraft discloses that the user may navigate through the list of candidate characters, i.e. the preselection window, via depressible roller wheel (for example, see column 1, lines 52-59), or alternatively, via a navigation key having "step-up/step-down" functionality (for example, see column 2, lines 50-62). Upon navigation to a particular character, the user may select the character for entrance into a user-entered character string by depressing

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the roller wheel only once (for example, see column 1, lines 30-59), or if a navigation key having step-up/step-down functionality provides the navigation means, the user may select the character by selecting a second key, e.g. a soft key, only once (for example, see column 2, lines 50-62).

Accordingly, the input of a character within the list requires that a key, e.g. a soft key, associated with the character be selected only once. Such input may be repeated to enter a plurality of characters, each character being input in response to the successful entrance of a previous character. Kraft discloses that the plurality of characters in the candidate list, i.e. preselection window, may comprise at least one digit and at least one letter (for example, see column 7, lines 15-50). Accordingly, Kraft teaches that in response to input of a first character, e.g. a first digit or letter, the input of a second digit or letter requires that a key associated with the second digit or letter be pressed only once, as is expressed in claims 21-22.

In reference to claim 23, Kraft discloses that, in addition to alphanumeric characters, various symbols may be displayed in the candidate list, i.e. preselection window (for example, see column 7, lines 15-50). The user may navigate through the list of candidate characters in the preselection window via depressable roller wheel (for example, see column 1, lines 52-59), or alternatively, via a navigation key having “step-up/step-down” functionality (for example, see column 2, lines 50-62). Upon navigation to a particular character, the user may select the character for entrance into a user-entered character string by depressing the roller wheel only once (for example, see column 1, lines 30-59), or if a navigation key having step-up/step-down functionality provides the navigation means, the user may select the character by selecting a second key, e.g. a soft key, only once (for example, see column 2, lines 50-62). Accordingly, the input of a character within the list requires that a key, e.g. a soft key, associated with the

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character be selected only once. Kraft thus teaches that symbols may be input as well as alphanumeric characters, such that, in response to the input of a first symbol, the input of a second symbol requires that a key associated with the second symbol be pressed only once.

Regarding claims 24 and 26, Kraft teaches associating keys, namely a navigation key (e.g. a roller wheel or a navigation key with “step-up/step-down” functionality) and a selection key (e.g. the roller wheel or a soft key), with a plurality of characters within a candidate list, such that the user may select the characters within the list using the keys, as is described above. Specifically, the user may navigate through the list of candidate characters, considered a preselection window, via depressible roller wheel (for example, see column 1, lines 52-59), or alternatively, via a navigation key having “step-up/step-down” functionality (for example, see column 2, lines 50-62). A cursor, in the form of the currently selected character being shown in highlight, denotes the user’s designated position in the list (for example, see column 1, lines 30-59 and figure 3). Accordingly, each candidate character’s position in the list is indicative of a number of keystrokes for the character, or more specifically, the number of keystrokes required to navigate to the character in the list. Upon navigation to a particular character, the user may select the character for entrance into a user-entered character string by depressing the roller wheel only once (for example, see column 1, lines 30-59), or if a navigation key having step-up/step-down functionality provides the navigation means, the user may select the character by pressing a second key, e.g. a soft key only once (for example, see column 2, lines 50-62). The plurality of characters in the candidate list, i.e. preselection window, may comprise at least one digit and at least one letter (for example, see column 7, lines 15-50). Accordingly, Kraft teaches: defining at least one key, specifically a navigation key (i.e. a roller wheel or a key with step-

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up/step-down functionality) and a selection key, to have an associated plurality of characters including at least one digit and at least one letter, with one of the plurality of characters able to be input using a particular number of keystrokes of a navigation key associated with the character; requiring that a key, e.g. a selection key, associated with one digit be pressed only once based on input of another digit when a string of characters is input; requiring that a key, e.g. a selection key, associated with one letter be pressed only once based on input of another letter when the string of characters is input; and displaying at least one preselection window simultaneously showing the plurality of characters which can be input using the at least one key in an order which corresponds to a current association between each character and the number of keystrokes which are required for inputting each character, wherein the currently selected character is shown in highlight. Kraft is thus considered to teach a method like that of claim 24, which is for inputting alphanumeric characters. Kraft teaches that such a method may be implemented on a portable communication device, such as a cell phone, comprising keys for input (i.e. for the navigation and selection described above), a memory device, and a processor (for example, see column 3, line 51 – column 5, line 41). Such a portable communication device implementing the above-described method of Kraft is considered an apparatus like that of claim 26.

In reference to claims 25 and 26, Kraft discloses that, in addition to alphanumeric characters, various symbols may be displayed in the candidate list, i.e. preselection window (for example, see column 7, lines 15-50). The user may navigate through the list of candidate characters in the preselection window via depressible roller wheel (for example, see column 1, lines 52-59), or alternatively, via a navigation key having “step-up/step-down” functionality (for

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example, see column 2, lines 50-62). Upon navigation to a particular character, the user may select the character for entrance into a user-entered character string by depressing the roller wheel only once (for example, see column 1, lines 30-59), or if a navigation key having step-up/step-down functionality provides the navigation means, the user may select the character by selecting a second key, e.g. a soft key, only once (for example, see column 2, lines 50-62).

Accordingly, the input of a character within the list requires that a key, e.g. a soft key, associated with the character be selected only once. Kraft thus teaches that symbols may be input as well as alphanumeric characters, such that, in response to the input of a first symbol, the input of a second symbol requires that a key associated with the second symbol be pressed only once.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Blaine Basom whose telephone number is (571) 272-4044. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (571) 272-4048. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

btb
11/23/2005

